



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

5

Agenda Item No.

City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Robert Richardson, City Manager
Prepared by: Anne M. Cooley, Deputy/Assistant City Clerk
Date: May 11, 2009
Subject: Technical Rock Climbing

The Issue

Shall the Auburn City Council support rock climbing in the Auburn State Recreation Area, Goldfields District?

Conclusion and Recommendation

By **RESOLUTION** request the U. S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Parks and Recreation, Gold Fields District, to expedite approval of technical rock climbing in the Auburn State Recreation Area.

Background

At the Auburn City Council Meeting of March 9, 2009 Gordon Ainsleigh provided a resolution to the Council for its approval which requested the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Goldfields District, to accelerate approval of technical rock climbing in the Auburn State Recreation Area. He reasoned that rock climbing would be beneficial to the City of Auburn to attract visitors to the area. The item was placed the agenda of April 13, 2009. Mr. Ainsleigh and members of the Board of Directors of Climbing Resource Advocacy of Greater Sacramento (CRAGS) provided Council with an informative presentation at that meeting.

Mayor Holmes then requested the item be placed on the May 11, 2009 agenda for a vote of the Council.

At the request of Mayor Holmes, Mr. Ainsleigh revised the original resolution to a shortened version.

Fiscal Impacts

None

1 RESOLUTION NO. 09

2 RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU
3 OF RECLAMATION AND CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND
4 RECREATION, GOLD FIELDS DISTRICT, TO EXPEDITE APPROVAL OF
5 TECHNICAL ROCK CLIMBING IN AUBURN STATE RECREATION AREA
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7 WHEREAS: the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation owns Auburn State
8 Recreation Area (Auburn SRA) and the California Department of Parks and
9 Recreation Gold Fields District (Gold Fields) manages it, and that management
10 greatly impacts the health, happiness and prosperity of the Auburn
community; and

11 WHEREAS: Gold Fields is currently updating its Auburn SRA General
12 Plan/Interim Resource Management Plan; said plan appears to include
13 technical rock climbing as an approved activity, but said plan appears to be
several years from completion; and

14 WHEREAS: it is within the City of Auburn's duties to encourage decisions
15 by other government bodies to enhance the health, happiness and prosperity
16 of Auburn's citizens and businesses, and to enhance Auburn's recreational
17 opportunities and reputation as a regional recreation hub and Endurance
Capital of the World; and

18 WHEREAS: the year-round infusion of climbers into Auburn SRA – but
19 especially in winter when climbing demand is expected to be greatest and river
20 recreation is low – would greatly benefit Auburn businesses, whose survival is
threatened by the rapidly worsening economy; and

21 WHEREAS: nonprofit Climbing Resource Advocates for Greater
22 Sacramento (CRAGS), representing the desire of many Northern California
23 climbers to climb at Auburn, is working with The Access Fund, a national
24 organization representing climbers from California and the rest of the country;
25 and CRAGS has committed to working closely with Gold Fields, the Bureau of
Reclamation and Auburn SRA in pursuit of safe, appropriate management of
climbing activities in the SRA;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Auburn City Council and the City
27 of Auburn request that the Bureau of Reclamation, Auburn SRA and Gold Fields
28 expedite approval of technical rock climbing and implementation of an interim
climbing management plan as quickly as possible and before completion of the
updated General Plan/Interim Resource Management Plan, so Auburn-area

1 people and businesses may benefit from climbing-related recreational tourism
2 and increased prosperity in the immediate future, when the economic need is
3 great.

4 AND NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auburn City Council and City of
5 Auburn makes this request to improve the life, health, happiness and
6 prosperity of the people of Auburn, Placer County, Greater Sacramento, the
7 San Francisco Bay Area and California.

8 DATED: May 11, 2009

9 J. M. Holmes, Mayor

10 ATTEST:

11 Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk

12
13 I, Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk of the City of Auburn, hereby certify
14 that the foregoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the City
15 Council of the City of Auburn held on the 11th day of May 2009 by the
16 following vote on roll call:

17 Ayes:

18 Noes:

19 Absent:

20 Joseph G. R. Labrie, City Clerk

